



STAFF REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF MAY 10, 2014

To: Town Council

From: Town Manager

Subject: Approval of designation of the Town of Loomis to act as Lead Agency pursuant to CEQA for the SPMUD Sewer Diversion Line Environmental Document

Date: April 18, 2014

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the designation of the Town of Loomis to act as Lead Agency pursuant to CEQA for the SPMUD Sewer Diversion Line Environmental Document

DISCUSSION:

In late September 2013, Town staff became aware that there were serious limitations in sewer capacity for the Town of Loomis which could hinder both short term and long term development potential. The Town Manager attended the October 3, 2013 SPMUD Board meeting and expressed the Town's concerns regarding the sewer capacity limitations. At that meeting, The SPMUD Board was understanding of the Town's circumstances and directed SPMUD staff to explore both short and long term solutions to the problem.

At the January 8, 2014 SPMUD Board meeting, and at the January 14, 2014 Town Council meeting, a 2x2 Ad Hoc committee was formed to develop short and long term solutions to the sewer capacity issues facing Loomis. Members of the 2x2 committee include Jim Williams, Vic Markay and the General Manager for SPMUD; Dave Wheeler, Rhonda Morillas and the Town Manager for the Town of Loomis. The latest meeting of the 2x2 committee was held April 14, 2014. At the April 14, 2014 meeting it was agreed that to move forward as expeditiously as possible, it would be of benefit if the Town of Loomis agreed to act as the Lead Agency pursuant to CEQA for the Diversion Line project Environmental Document. Staff believes that the Town is better equipped and has more experience in a lead agency role to process the environmental document in the shortest timeline possible.

In general, a local government agency with jurisdiction over general land uses is the preferred public agency serving as lead agency. SPMUD does not have jurisdiction over land use issues.

The lead agency is responsible for determining the appropriate environmental document, as well as its preparation. The Town will be responsible for conducting the CEQA review process. The Town will be responsible for coordinating with the public and associated responsible agencies during the CEQA process.

CEQA :

The proposed Lead Agency designation is in conformance with Section 15367 of the CEQA guidelines.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

This will require both the Town Planner and Town Manager time.